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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Serial No.: 09/473,137

Matsutaro MIYAMOTO et al.

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SEP 1 2 2001

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Group Art Unit: 3745

Alfalita

Filed:

December 28, 1999

Examiner: Christopher VERDIER

For: TURBO-MOLECULAR PUMP

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT DATED AUGUST 23, 2001

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

September 7, 2001

Sir:

In response to the Requirement for an Election of Species Requirement dated August 23, 2001, it is believed that Species 1 is drawn to Figures 1-2; Species 2 is drawn to Figures 3-4; Species 3 is drawn to Figures 5-7; Species 4 is drawn to Figures 8-9; Species 5 is drawn to Figure 10; Species 6 is drawn to Figures 11-12 and 13A-13B; Species 7 is drawn to Figures 14-16; Species 8 is drawn to Figures 17-18; Species 9 is drawn to Figure 19; Species 10 is drawn to Figures 20 and 21A-21B; Species 11 is drawn to Figures 22-25; Species 12 is drawn to Figures 26-27; Species 13 is drawn to Figure 28; Species 14 is drawn to Figures 29-30; Species 15 is drawn to Figures 31-34; or Species 16 is drawn to Figures 35-36.

As required by the Examiner, the applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Species 14, drawn to Figures 29 - 30. Claims 1 - 3, 5, 7 - 22, and 30 - 32 are believed to read

on Species 14. The applicants reserve the right to file Divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

The applicants respectfully request an early examination on the elected claims 1 - 3, 5, 7 - 22, and 30 - 32, and favorable action on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions with this Response, please feel free to call the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI McLELAND & NAUGHTON, LLP

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MRQ:lrj